

VII. And be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid, That the Secretary shall be allowed for Recording the said Acts, in the Public Levy, so much as the General Assembly shall think the said Secretary shall reasonably deserve.

Examined and Compared with the Original Act, REVERDY GHISELIN, THOMAS BACON.

C H A P. XXV. The Secretary to be paid, in the Public Levy, for recording the Acts.

C H A P. XXVI.

An ACT for the Speedy Trial of Criminals, and ascertaining their Punishment in the County Courts when prosecuted there; and for Payment of Fees due from Criminal Persons. *Lib. LL.* N<sup>o</sup> 4. fol. 164.

Passed 3d June 1715.

**W**HEREAS many Acts of Assembly have been heretofore made against Thieving and Stealing, which at this present are not sufficient to prevent the committing those Crimes, or to punish them when committed; *Be it therefore Enacted, by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majesty's Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same,* That it shall and may be lawful to and for the several Justices of the County Courts of this Province, to hold Plea of, adjudge, and in lawful Manner determine, all Thieving and Stealing of any Goods or Chattels whatsoever, not being above the Value of One Thousand Pounds of Tobacco (Robbery, Burglary, and House-Breaking excepted) and every Person or Persons legally convicted of any such Thieving and Stealing (except before excepted) by Testimony of one sufficient Evidence, not being the Party grieved, before any such County Court as aforesaid, shall and may cause to be punished by paying Four-fold of the Value of the Goods so Thieved or Stolen as aforesaid, and the Stolen Goods returned to the Party or Parties grieved thereby, and by putting in the Pillory, and Whipping so many Stripes as the Court before whom such Matter is tried, shall adjudge, not exceeding Forty: Which Court shall always adjudge the Value of the Goods so Thieved and Stolen as aforesaid. And if any such Person, so convicted, have not sufficient Goods and Chattels, or be a Servant whereby he is incapable to have Goods and Chattels to satisfy and pay the said Four-fold, in every such Case, such Person or Persons shall receive the corporal Punishment as aforesaid, and satisfy the Four-fold, and Fees of Conviction, by Servitude.

Preamble.

County Courts empowered to adjudge all Thieving and Stealing under the Value of 1000<sup>lb</sup> Tobacco, (Robbery, Burglary and House break- ing excepted) how to be punished. The Four- fold and Fees in what cases to be paid by Servitude.

II. And be it hereby Enacted and Declared, by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That the Time of Service of a Free Person convict as aforesaid, not having Goods and Chattels as aforesaid, shall commence from the Time of his Conviction as aforesaid. And the Time of Service of a Servant, convict as aforesaid, shall commence at the Expiration of such Time of Servitude, to which, at the Time of his Conviction, he stood bound. Which Time of Servitude, for Satisfaction for the Stolen Goods, and Fees accrued as aforesaid, shall be adjudged by such County Court, either to the Party grieved, or any other Person the Court shall order such Convict to, that will then and there pay, or secure to be paid, the Four-fold and Costs aforesaid, at the Discretion of the Court. And if any Person or Persons shall receive or take Part of such Stolen Goods, or assist the Person so Stealing as aforesaid, to make away, or conceal them, being legally convicted as aforesaid, shall suffer the same corporal Pains with the Party Stealing as aforesaid, any Law, Statute, Usage, or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Servi- tude of a free Person, to commence from the Conviction; of a Servant, at the Expi- ration of his present Servi- tude, to be adjud- ged by the Court. Receivers and Aiders to suffer like corporal Pu- nishment with the Thief.

III. And if any Person or Persons have been once convicted of any such Thieving and Stealing (except before excepted) and shall after be again pre- sented for Thieving and Stealing of any Goods or Chattels, laid to be above the Value of Twelve Pence, it shall not be tried and determined by any County Court.

Such Con- victs being a gain pre- sented, &c. shall be tried in the Provincial Court.